

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1-32 were previously pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 6-8, 10, 12-15, 17, 19, 21-25 and 27-32 are canceled, leaving claims 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 16, 18, 20 and 26.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter in claims 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 16, 18, 20, and 26. In reliance thereon, claim 5 is rewritten in independent form.

Since the claims remaining in the application are directed to allowable subject matter, the rejection of claims 1, 3, 6-8, 10, 12-15, 17, 19, 21-25 and 27-32 over CRISS et al. 6,308,061 in view of FUENTES 5,960,340, is believed moot.

Since the claims remaining in the application are directed to allowable subject matter and since there are believed no outstanding formal matters, the application is believed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

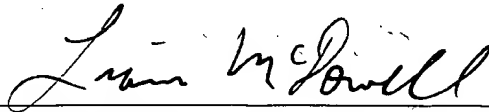
The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

Application No. 09/656,959
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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional
fees required under 37 C.F.R. \$1.16 or under 37 C.F.R.\$1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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LM/mjr
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